

# The Messenger

ESTABLISHED 1872.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$1.00 A YEAR.

OKOLONA, MISS., JUNE 4, 1902.

The 100th anniversary of the Jefferson Military College at Natchez was appropriately celebrated by the pupils and faculty on the 30th ult.

The hobo sufferer of the earthquake and volcano variety has not yet had the nerve to bandage himself up and start out, but he will be along in due time, never fear.

There would be no complaint by a majority of the people of this section if a good old fashioned pour down rain should select this spot as a place to vent itself just about now.

The state convention of King's daughters, held at Biloxi last week, took decisive action against child labor in the rapidly increasing industrial enterprises of the South.

This is the gala days of the school people of this state, most of them giving their attention to the commencement exercises for the year ending with good work all over the state.

President Roosevelt is coming to Mississippi to take a bear hunt with the Governor. It is not announced whether the President will dine indiscriminately with the escorts of the hunting party or not.

There can be little doubt that Hanna will be a strong factor as a candidate for the nomination for President in the Republican convention. He is a good fence builder and his repair work is also faultless.

The general opinion of those nearest the inside facts in the premises is that Okolona will have a \$40,000 cotton seed oil mill in running order this fall by the time the seed commenced to show on the market from the new crop.

The coal miners on a strike have stumbled upon a happy plan, that of swearing off from drinking during a strike. This will certainly bring to their assistance during such a time alibie whiskey men and brewers of the country, and any man who imagines such a force is not formidable, does not move about much.

Are you doing anything that will assist in making your city and the section in which you reside more desirable as a place to live or more profitable as a business location? This is a question any man may well ask himself every morning, and then resolve not to sleep again until he could answer it in the affirmative.

The A. and M. Commencement this year has been more generally attended by visitors from all over the state than ever before, because the people are awake to the importance of its line of work and of the efforts made to have the South lead to the highest possible rank of industrial lines with Southern men at the head of the work.

Some portions of Mississippi are not lagging in their efforts to have good roads, while in other sections little progress is being made. In this immediate vicinity there is not as much activity in this line of advancement as the trade of the city and the convenience of the country people who use the roads most would warrant.

The citizens of a western town who sent a petition to Washington asking for the removal of their local postmaster on the ground that he played poker, had their trouble for their pains. It is now conceded by the petitioners that the members of the United States senate, the cabinet and perhaps the executive himself, have more regard for a man who has the nerve to stand pat on a four flush and tap himself than for any community of kickers.

The United States is in no immediate danger of serious eruptions in the line of volcanic eruptions, except occasionally in some man's individual political aspirations. The man who is out for an office never really knows when the mountain of public disapproval is going to burst at the crest and belch forth lava, smoke, mud, hot air and sudden political death. Bad idea to build a political house under the shadow of a mountain.

Kansas Republicans had a big time at their state convention last week. There was a most stubborn contest between the forces of Senator Burton and Cyrus Leland, the latter whom was recently defeated by the efforts of the former for a re-appointment by the president as Pension Commissioner of the Kansas District. The Leland forces went to the front in the State convention and mopped the very earth with the Burton fellows. W. J. Bailey, ex-congressman at large from the state, a warm friend of Leland's, was nominated for governor, and if there is not some slip in the plans, Bailey will be pushed to a successful issue as the successor of Burton in the United States senate.

President J. T. Senter, of the Mississippi Press association says he intends to leave no effort unexerted to make the next meeting of the association the most beneficial to the members and the newspapers of the state generally that has been held in years. While there may have been some question as to the propriety of the association going to New Orleans next year and meeting jointly with the Louisiana Press association, if the new President is able to carry forward the good work he is planning, all such questions will be pushed aside. The exchange of ideas between the members of the two associations, at a time like the present, when the South is joining in an effort for a general advancement all along the line of all the South's interests, cannot fail to be made of incalculable interest and benefit, to the papers and to the people they serve and in a great measure represent. Every legitimate newspaper in the state should rally cheerfully to the work Mr. Senter proposes to map out for the next meeting and put their shoulders to the wheel to see that it is made effective. There can be no question of Mr. Senter's ability to render the papers of the state good service this year.

The crowd of excursionists who have been exploring the South lately, known as the Thompson party, whose mission has been to ascertain how the negroes are treated by the Southern people among whom they live, will doubtless return to their effete northern homes wiser if not happier men. The investigation of course comes from the agitation to bring about national interference by the Federal government on some of the provisions of the Constitutions of Southern states on the suffrage question. Because the negroes of the South are not permitted to run the government of the states in which they are in the majority numerically, has been a political boon to northern politicians for many years, now and then poking its head high enough above the waves to make it more or less conspicuous. To understand the attitude of the Southern people on this issue is to join them, and the hot headed political fakir who continually jumps up to revive such a question ought to be forced to live in a section where negro domination would be unquestioned. A very few months sojourn in such a position would return him to his former surroundings a changed man.

The recent burglaries and house breaking in Okolona is likely to prove a blessing in disguise. While no citizen pines to awaken in the night to find a burly negro slipping about his bed rooms in search of valuables he may steal and carry away, this dirty work is likely to have aroused the city authorities to an extent that they will set to work a plan which will properly clean up the city and rid it of the gang of worthless loafers who have infested it for years. The rock pile or banishment from the city limits is likely to cause a good many worthless characters to find pastures more green or congenial, and this is the only course now that promises to rid our city of a class of cut throats and robbers, who have been permitted to loaf about and live off the sleeves-full of cold provisions the professional day time house thief in the person of a cook has been carrying to the worthless whelps from the day they were born.

Lord Pauncefoot, the British ambassador to the United States, died in Washington on the 24th ult. Perhaps some one occasionally lies about the attitude of such men in matters where the relations of the United States are concerned, but be this as it may, from the standpoint of an American it does not seem that there will be much difficulty in finding a successor to this representative who will be fully as welcome as our guest as the late Lord has been for some time back.

Holly Springs has organized a Business men's league with Morris Bloomenthal as its first president. This is an indication that the beautiful city proposes to keep in the front ranks and take advantage of the trend which means that the South is going forward with a jump.

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## FABLES UP-TO-DATE.

Tom McFidel, in Topeka Mail and Breeze.

A beautiful fat steer was standing in his stall surrounded by a lot of men who were admiring his shape and beauty. This sort of thing went on until the steer grew swell headed and haughty and concluded that he was nearly the whole push. And seeing a lean, spindle-shanked animal gazing at him through a crack in the door of the shed, the haughty steer said: "Well, you poor, lean, lank, lousy galoot, what would you give to have my size and beauty of shape? Did you notice how all those men gathered about and could hardly get their eyes off me? Now they wouldn't let a thing like you stay in the stable."

"Probably not," answered the lean, lank bovine, "but I might remark incidentally that I heard the boss of this ranch talking to one of those men an hour ago and from the drift of the conversation I infer that your carcass will be hanging up in the cooling room of the packing house inside of the next three days."

Moral: Just when you get the notion imbedded in your mind that you are the whole works is just the time when you are most likely to get it in the neck.

On one occasion a socialist colony was organized by a man of ideals. His theory was that all men should share equally, regardless of their ability, arguing that it was just as easy for a strong man to do a great deal as for the weak man to do a little and that the weak man ought to have just as much as the strong. When a couple of hundred members had been secured, the colony got down to business, fixing up their possessions, which they held in common.

The first business to be done was to clear a body of land and grub out the stumps. Among the colonists were two or three six footers who were strong as work horses and who knew how to handle a pick or an ax to a fare-you-well. There were also several little weazened men in the outfit, who couldn't cut off as much in a day as a squirrel, nor grub as many roots as a gopher. On the first day that the colonists commenced work the big men sailed in to beat the band. Each one of them cut and grubbed as much as four of the weazened, weak men, but the next day they commenced to talk the thing over and one of them said: "Of course, it is all right to share equally, but then there is no sort of sense in our doing five times as much work as these other fellows and getting no more out of the general fund. I have noticed that that little spindle-shanked rooster over there, who can't dig as much in the course of a day as a ground squirrel, eats as much when he hits the table as I do. Now my proposition is this: We can work three or four hours in a day and then do as much as these other fellows can by working all day. We will then have the balance of the day to rest and loaf and enjoy ourselves." Accordingly, the next day the big fellows buckled down to work until about 10 a. m., and then knocked off for the balance of the day and went fishing. But when the spindle-shanked and weak men saw the large and husky men knock off from work and begin loafing they commenced to roar, saying: "Why should we toil while these men loaf? They are not as tired as we are and if they loaf we won't work."

Right there trouble commenced. All the work was neglected while the members of the colony argued and abused each other and within two months the colony was a busted community.

Moral: Until men get a lot more usefless than they are at present, the socialistic theory will be a failure.

There was a beautiful girl who graduated with honor. Her oration on the subject "The Glorious Opportunities This Age Offers to Women," was pronounced a little the best thing that had been gotten off by a graduate of that institution for years and people who heard it freely predicted that there was a girl who would make things hum as soon as she really got out into the world.

A year after she delivered that graduating oration the young woman married a young fellow who measured five feet one inch and weighed 101 pounds before he had his dinner and 101 1/2 pounds after he dined. He was cross-eyed and had a seed wart on the end of his nose about half the size of a full grown Colorado potato bug and his mouth looked like the puckered end of a sack of table salt. His ears were so large and set so near the top of his head that they looked like a couple of awnings and his neck resembled the swallowing apparatus of a

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sand hill crane. When the people who had heard the young woman's oration, first saw her husband they asked in wonder how she had happened to pick it up. Then they concluded that he must surely have the stuff or she would never have hitched onto him, and said that they always knew that she had an eye to business, but when they learned that the girl's husband, who looked like 30 cents, was working in a grocery store at a salary of \$35 per month, they looked him over once more and then said: "Wouldn't that jar you?"

Moral: It isn't safe to make up your mind from hearing the oration of a sweet girl graduate what she will do in life.

Decadence of Turkish Literature Ascribed to Present Ruler's Tyranny.

I was privileged recently to have a few words with Memdough Bey, the Turkish poet, who is now in London to establish a Turkish paper devoted to politics, says James W. Smith in the Era Magazine. Memdough Bey ascribes the decadence of Turkish literature to the baleful reign of the present sultan.

"No one," he says, "dares to publish a book of any literary value. Every writer is suspected of political motives, and is immediately subject to persecution should he attempt to write anything but commonplace. The result is that nothing appears except worthless pamphlets eulogizing the sultan and his system."

The works of all the best authors are prohibited, and, in consequence, writers have either suffered persecution, or have been obliged to become exiles in foreign lands. The sultan is particularly hostile to poets. Memdough Bey is an active, intelligent man of striking appearance, and a pleasant talker.

"I am finding considerable difficulty," he said, "in starting my paper. So far I have come across only one man in London who can set up Turkish type, and he does something else for a living."



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